

Operation Outcry Testimony Influences Four Major Court Victories!

Forty years after the Supreme Court legalized abortion-on-demand on January 22, 1973, the tide has turned. It's the beginning of the end of *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*.

In *Gonzales v. Carhart* (2007), the first case referencing Operation Outcry testimony, the Supreme Court upheld the federal ban on the gruesome “partial-birth abortion” procedure. The Supreme Court cited The Justice Foundation’s Amicus Brief (also known as a friend of the court brief) in its ruling. The brief was filed on behalf of Sandra Cano, who was “Mary Doe” of *Doe v. Bolton* (the companion case to *Roe v. Wade*) and 180 Women Hurt By Abortion (part of Operation Outcry).

Citing the pages of post-abortive women’s testimony The Justice Foundation presented, the Supreme Court recognized that “**some women come to regret**” their abortions. “**Whether to have an abortion requires a difficult and painful moral decision**” and is “**fraught with emotional consequence.**” The Court also noted that “**severe depression and loss of esteem can follow**” an abortion.

In the second victory, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit on June 27, 2008 upheld South Dakota’s law requiring abortionists to tell a woman that “**abortion will terminate the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being,**” defined as a member of the human species (*Homo sapiens*). *Planned Parenthood v. Rounds*.

The most basic question many women ask before an abortion is: “Is it a baby?” One would assume that abortionists and courts would be able to answer this question. However, Planned Parenthood does not want to tell women abortion kills a human being. They consistently do not tell women that abortion is being performed on a human being, a member of the species *Homo sapiens*, a living organism.

In the third victory on January 10, 2012, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the Texas Sonogram Law requiring a woman to be shown a sonogram with a required description by the doctor of the child in her womb before she has to make the “**difficult and painful moral decision**” to abort “**the infant life within her.**” *Texas Medical Providers Performing Abortions v. Lakey*. Both the Texas Legislature (through hearing testimony) and the Fifth Circuit Court citing *Gonzales v. Carhart* came to the conclusion that “**... it seems unexceptionable to conclude that some women come to regret their choice to abort the infant life they once created and sustained.** (Citing Brief of Sandra Cano and 180 Operation Outcry Women Hurt by Abortion.) **Severe depression and loss of esteem can follow.**”

This citation of post-abortive women’s pain by the courts demonstrates again that the voices of the women of Operation Outcry are continuing to have a deep and long lasting impact on the courts of the United States.

In the 4th major victory, on July 24, 2012, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a South Dakota law requiring abortionists to tell the truth that a woman who has an abortion has an increased risk of suicide and suicidal thoughts. Planned Parenthood did not even dispute the increased risk of depression. The Court said: “**Based on the record, the studies submitted by the State are sufficiently reliable to support the truth of the proposition that the relative risk of suicide and suicide ideation [Ed. - thoughts] is higher for women who abort their pregnancies compared to women who give birth or have not become pregnant.**”

Why we collect Declarations

To save others from being hurt by abortion. Our primary motivation is a loving desire to save others from the devastation of abortion and to save children in the womb from death by abortion.

The power of testimony touched the Supreme Court, which cited the real life experiences of women hurt by abortion.

The Court’s ruling is an invitation to provide further evidence of the harm of abortion. See excerpts from the Court’s opinion on reverse side. The Court is listening to the “wailing women” who can “teach our nation to mourn” for children lost to abortion. See Jeremiah 9:17-24.

Written testimony is the most confidential, private, simplest, and long-lasting form of witnessing. Individuals who wish to protect their identity can provide legally admissible statements that can be used with only their initials.

We need to be ready. The Court will revisit the abortion issue again. There are several cases moving toward the Court now.

We need to show the Court the magnitude of the harm of abortion. We encourage all who have experienced the devastating and life-impacting effects of abortion to come forth as witnesses for truth and participate in a healing program. If the truth stays hidden in darkness and in the secret places of your heart, then the lie that abortion is good for women and men will continue. When women and men come forth, the truth will prevail.

States need evidence to regulate or ban abortion.

The women and men of Operation Outcry are extremely pleased that the Courts are now listening to real women who have been hurt by abortion and beginning to protect women from abortionists, rather than listening only to Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, and other abortionists.

What's next?

Your testimony can help restore justice and end abortion

Although all four Courts acknowledged the harm of abortion, the Supreme Court also stated they had **“no reliable data to measure”** the extent of the problem. The most effective way to show the Courts the magnitude of the problem is to collect a much larger number of testimonies.

The Justice Foundation has collected legally admissible testimony through its project, Operation Outcry, from over 4,500 women. This is the largest known body of direct, legally admissible testimony in the world that shows the harmful effects of abortion

Your testimony in a Declaration can be used (confidentially, if desired) in legal cases and presented to state, national and international governing authorities to end or limit abortion, such as a complete abortion ban, informed consent, parental consent, etc. To protect your identity, your first name or initials only can be used if you wish. Personal contact information is never released. A Declaration form and instructions are available on our website or you can fill out and sign the Declaration online at: www.operationoutcry.org.

We praise and thank the Lord for the progress being made!



Cindy Collins
Co-Host of “Faces Of Abortion” TV/Radio Program
The Justice Foundation/Operation Outcry

*“As I left the abortion facility, I was told, “Everything will be alright. You can go on with your life... **My life was never the same.** ...I immediately went into a deep depression.”*



Linda J. Cochrane R.N.
Author of “Forgiven and Set Free” and
Executive Director of Hopeline Pregnancy Resource Center

*“Writing out your story can start the healing process. Submitting a declaration is probably best after a significant amount of healing has taken place. Women who do not want others to hurt after abortion will want to do something to stop our national pain. Revelations 12:11 tells us **“We overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony.”**”*

Supreme Court Ruling on Partial Birth Abortion

– Excerpts –

“Respect for human life finds an ultimate expression in the bond of love the mother has for her child. ... Whether to have an abortion requires a difficult and **painful moral** decision. *Casey, supra*, at 852-853 (opinion of the Court). **While we find no reliable data to measure the phenomenon, it seems unexceptionable to conclude some women come to regret their choice to abort the infant life they once created and sustained.** See Brief for Sandra Cano et al. as *Amici Curiae* in No. 05-380, pp. 22-24. [This is the TJF Brief citing the women's testimonies.] **Severe depression and loss of esteem can follow.** See *ibid.*” (emphasis added). **“The State has an interest in ensuring so grave a choice is well informed.** (emphasis added). *Gonzalez v. Carhart*, 550 U.S. 124 (2007).

Also cited in (*Planned Parenthood v. Rounds*, 530 F. 3rd 724 (8th Cir. 2008); and *Texas Medical Providers v. Lakey*, Docket Number 11-50814 Opinion dated January 10, 2012 (5th Cir.); and *Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota v. Rounds*, 686 F.3d 889 (8th Cir. 2012) (en banc).